The National Tribune.

PUBLISHED WEEKLY. ONE DOLLAR PER YEAR,

INVARIABLY IN ADVANCE.

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ENTERED AT WASHINGTON POSTOFFICE AS SECOND-CLASS MATTER

WASHINGTON, D. C., FEB. 25, 1904. Office: 339 Pennsylvania Avenue N. W.

Now Honduras is getting up a revolution about the size of a college cane rush.

No MAN in the country is doing nearly so much to the election of Theodore Roosevelt as William Jennings Bryan.

COMRADE JAMES TANNER has just returned from Boston and Providence, where Black, and made eight speeches, besides attending four banquets. It was hard work even for "Jim" Tanner, and the result was that he came home, had severe chills, and has been off duty since.

says that it only requires a glance at the broken down are most generally outside United States Senate in session, and then the Order. There is a reason for this. at the English House of Lords in session, to recognize that the American body has a their attendance upon Post meetings and far more intellectual aspect than the other their taking part in the movements which assemblage. Nine-tenths of the visible intellect in the British House is to be seen in the faces on the Bench of Bishops and the things which their more healthful comfrom the lower strata of society, and it is in the Grand Army. Therefore the death Law Lords, all of whom have come up one of the problems in nature why the rate among them must be very much English aristocracy should be so homely and so commonplace.

It may help reconcile the Southern Democrats to the United States rule in the Philippines to know that the Hon. Luke E. Wright, who succeeds Secretary Taft Democrat, and served during the war in Tenn., and commanded a brigade during E. Wright is a jurist of distinguished good Governor of the archipelago.

A MOST wanton and impudent set of liars are those who are prating about slavery and the slave trade in the Philippines. There is simply no slavery there. in the ordinary meaning of the word, and consequently no slave trade. There is a survival of the old patriarchal form of family tribal life, such as all peoples have has a piece of land upon which all the members are supported, and the head of authority over all, allots land to different members, and assigns them their work. The men who talk about slavery are simply ignorant of the conditions there, and of history besides.

THE torpedo-boat seems to be very much in the ascendancy now, and the battleship suffering an eclipse. The torpedoboats have certainly been handled with great skill and daring lately, and have inflicted startling blows. Before, however, we can fully decide, we shall have to learn of the extent of the injuries the torpedoboats have inflicted upon the battleships. The Russian commander insists that they were comparatively light, and that the battleships will be ready for service in a few days. If this is the case, it will diminish the prestige of the torpedo-boats, but it cannot take away their moral effect, nor the fact that one of those active little vermin of the sea may take an important fighter out of the battle at a critical moment when her presence may be vitally

THE first news of the Japanese successes was received with due suspicion, but now it seems clear that on the night of Feb. 8 two Russian fleets, 300 miles apart, were attacked with such success as to destroy the Russian supremacy at sea in those waters, and give the control to the Japanese fleet. Henceforth Russian ships they can be supported by the forts, and even then they will not be at all safe from the active little torpedo-boats. Two battleships and four cruisers have certainly been disabled if not destroyed, and the Japanese fleet is now twice as strong as that

there over night. He is looking well, is manders of the depredations and the needs comment. quite free from pain, and is convalencing criminal worthlessness of these "partisan" quite rapidly, but has been compelled to bands, and asking that measures be taken

future.

REDUCTION OF THE PERSON BOLL. The enormous reduction—the awful reduction, it seems to the friends of the veterans of the pension expenditures immediately after the passage of the service pension bill, is so prominent a feature in the calculation that, mournful as it is, we of which Quantrell and the James Brothers must consider it and impress it upon our were good specimens. The outrages of civilian friends. The all-important fact these vermin of the war became so freis that fully 50,000 veterans will die this quent and terrible that, toward the close year, and in all human probability the of the struggle, Union and rebel commandmortality will greatly increase in every subsequent year. To show how rapidly the mortality rate among the veterans has risen in the past few years, we give the following table from the report of the Adjutant-General, G. A. R., as to the mortaliy in that organization:

serious in the States further west, which were not so completely covered by the operations of the regular Confederate armies. until one got to Missouri, where the lowest level was reached, in countiess gangs of absolutely brutal and merciless outlaws, ers united to suppress them, which was very often done with short shrifts and long ropes. Gen. Forrest, himself, helped our commanders in Tennessee, Kentucky and Mississippi, in breaking up gangs of these marauders, and some deeds were done in

those swamps that would make the respec-

					LOSS BY DEATH.	
			0.0 400		Pe	r cent.
or	vear	ending	March	81.	1886	0.93
"	""	"	44	31	18873,406	0.95
"	44	44	44	31	1888	1.18
**	**	**	June	30	18894,696	1.18
**	46	*	66	30.	1890	1.33
**	**	**	**	30	1891	1.46
**	46	**	"	30	1892	1.61
"	**	46	**	30	1893	1.78
44	**	**	**	30	1894	1.97
44	66	66	**	30	1895	2.06
"	**	**	**	30	1896	2.91
66	**	"	**	30	1897	2.35
"	**	"	44	30	1898	2.41
**	**	**	**	30	1899	2.78
"	**	**	**	30	1900	2.80
"	66	66	66	30	19018,166	3.02
**	**	**	44	30,	1902	3.08
"	**	"	"	30,	19038,366	3.22

By this it will be seen that since 1886 | table Antis of Boston faint with horror if the mortality rate has risen from .93 of one per cent. per annum, to 3.22, or is now almost four times as great. Last year it leaped up perceptibly from what it was the year before, and it must continue to he went to represent Commander-in-Chief rapidly increase as the veterans grow

If the figures furnished by the Record and Pension Bureau of the War Department are correct, there are 858,002 veterans now alive. Unquestionably the membership of the Grand Army represents the veterans who are in the best Col. THOMAS WENTWORTH HIGGINSON physical condition. Those who are badly Their age and their disabilities prevent their more vigorous comrades are carrying on. They have not the interest in rades have, and consequently they are not larger than it is among the active members of the Order.

The Senate Committee on Pensions has estimates which support the belief that fully 45,000 veterans die every year, and last year the Pension Bureau reported that the deaths were over 50,000. Undoubtedly as Governor, is an old-time States Rights | the Commissioner of Pensions has better information than the Pension Committee, and maligned as comparatively few men Brig. Gen. Marcus T. Wright, who entered the Confederate army at the beginning of for believing that not only were there 50. the Confederate army. He is a brother of but probably he has not all the facts in his have been. He was a good example of the Confederate army at the beginning of for believing that not only were there 50,- up as a model for American boys. He dies that are described to the eye of a solthe war as Lieutenant-Colonel of the 154th | 000 deaths among the veterans last year, started without any of the advantages of but that the aggregate mortality this year a large part of the war. The Hon, Luke will rise some thousands above this figure, and rapidly approximate 60,000 per anability, and will probably make a very num. We will be entirely safe and peras the number of deaths per annum. Therefore, after the passage of the service pension bill and its going into operation, the annual expenditures will be inevitably decreased every year at the rate of 50.000 times \$144, or \$7,200,000 a year. It will in reality be much greater than this, for those already on the rolls who are receiving high rates of pension will die off more gone through. That is, the family or tribe rapidly than those who are getting \$12 unselfish as any such support could posgreat as to possibly increase the loss from the family, or chief, or patriarch, exercises the pension roll a million dollars or more per annum above the \$7,200,000.

> Lamentable as this is to all veterans and friends of veterans, it is yet mathematically true, and easy to be demonstrated by an ordinary operation in arithmetic.

"'Tis true 'tis pity; pity 'tis 'tis true." All of the possible claimants having been put upon the roll, there will be no addi tional allowances to swell its expenditures. and the appropriations for it must every year diminish with a rapidity that will be as gratifying to the "Watch dogs of the Treasury" as mournful to those who see the swift melting away of that grand army of brave veterans who saved this country from destruction in its hour of dire need.

THE CONFEDERATE ROLLS.

The War Department has sent to Gov. Montague, of Virginia, and other representatives of the Southern States a letter denving the request for proof sheets of the muster-rolls of the Confederate army now being compiled by the Department, alongside of those of the Union army. The refusal is based upon the great amount of clerical work which would be involved. and the delay which it would cause to the completion of the rolls.

The Secretary's letter urges that every Confederate roll found anywhere be sent at once to the Department, but the Secretary says that he will adhere to his rule will be confined to their harbors where that nothing except stricly official matter

shall be allowed to go upon the roll. The question will be as to what shall be considered as official. All over the South were numbers of organizations which took part in the war on the rebel side, but which lacked official recognition of Russia, so that the coasts of Japan are and record. There were great numbers not only free of any attack, but the Jap- of "partisan" organizations of all shades anese can move their transports at will to of irregularity. Hundreds of these were fand troops where they please to attack raised by men who gathered in what men the Bussians. This gives Japan an enor- they could induce to follow them, and the Russians. This gives Japan an enormous advantage in the war, especially since, acting in accordance with Secretary Hay's note, China has been strictly neutralized, and the Russians will not be allowed to draw any smaller form. A large portion of them tralized, and the Russians will not be allowed to draw any smaller form. A large portion of them they could induce to follow them, and subsequently it developed that her section of them do choice was insane at the time of her marriage, and was sent to the asylum. The matter came up before the Supreme Court of New York, a very dignified and learned to draw any smaller form. lowed to draw any supplies from that plunder was promised them without ac- body, and presumably knowing something country. Therefore all the Russians can companying danger. In the latter years of its business, which decreed that the rely upon is what troops and supplies they of the war, the rebel Generals and subor- said marriage "be declared null and void, can force over that long, slender line of dinate commanders made great effort to ab initio, and of no effect, and that no single track railroad, 6,000 miles in length. get these lawless gangs into the regular marriage, or contract, or relation exists or It does not seem possible that they can organizations, but were only partially sucbring enough force by this means to meet cessful. Even as well organized as the and defendant." In spite of this, when the Japanese army of 350,000 men which rebel army was in Virginia, there were still Mrs. Ramsey applied to the Pension Bucan be poured into Korea and Manchuria. hundreds of these bands or gangs of "par- reau for a restoration of the pension on tisans," who managed to get outside of the ground that she had not Commander-in-Chief John C. Black im- They were a great annoyance to the ter what the New York Supreme Court Commander-in-Unief John C. Black improved so much last week that he was able to leave his bed in the hospital and do some hours' work a day in his office in the Civil Service Commission. He reconsiderable portion of the war records in the Civil Service Commission. He returns to the hospital after he has finished relating to Virginia in 1864 is taken up of Mr. Evans in setting himself up above up his work in his office, and remains with complaints by the Confederate com- the Supreme Court of New York hardly

they knew of them. Hundreds of these red-handed scoundrels were shot on sight by both Union and Confederate soldiers.

The considerations that led Gen. Sherman to concede to Gen. Johnston's army the right to take their arms home and deposit them in their State Capitals, was the plea that these were needed to defend themselves against these so-called "partisan," ostensibly Confederate, soldiers, but really murderous banditti, who had no political principles and were only seeking to rob and plunder. The question, therefore, will be a very strenuous one as to how far the names of men composing these bands should be allowed a place on the rolls of the Confederate army. The State authorities, of course, in their anxiety to swell the number of men furnished to the rebel army, will want to include everybody. The regular Confederate soldiers will want to in regiments, and they will scorn to have their names put on the same footing with those of these red-handed robbers.

SENATOR HANNA. The death of Senator Hanna shows con-

clusively that this country is still breeding great men. Hanna was great in very many ways, and none of his greatness was attributable to any specious advertising. It was a greatness that forced recognition from the people, after he had been abused which he was engaged. These were the feetly just, however, in assuming 50,000 sole secrets of his success. While brilliant as a money-maker, he was unflinchingly true to moral and political principles. and found time and opportunity to give the most unselfish devotion to advancing the men whom he thought best represented his principles—that is, James A. Garfield and William McKinley. To those men he gave a support that counted nothing of time, labor or expense. It was as a month, and this proportion will be so sibly be. It was in this way that he drifted into politics, and he carried into that the same thoroughness and business principles which had made him a success commercially. He proceeded to thoroughly. inform himself as to every man in the party, his capabilities, what he was worth. and where he could do the most effective work. He organized first the minor divisions of the party in Ohio for success, then the party in the State, and finally in the United States. He did this with such a grasp and with such success, that there was but one voice as to his fitness for the leadership. He could have had at any time any office within the gift of the Republican party without solicitation, and with the feeling that he conferred distinction upon the office by taking it. He only became Senator in order to help his friend McKinley and to further the party's policy, which he considered was the best for the country. There has passed away a good, strong, upright, loyal man of the highest convictions, and of equally lofty courage in carrying them out.

> THE LAW-MAKING PENSION BUREAU. During the maladministration of the

Pension Bureau by Commissioners Lockren and Evens The National Tribune fre quently and strenuously asserted that the Pension Bureau was a law to itself, and that it was making laws to suit itself in dependent of what Congress made. This was as vigorously denied by Commission ers Lochren and Evans and their friends. All the same the autocracy and unlimited self-sufficiency of the Pension Bureau in not only interpreting the laws of Congress to suit themselves, in disregarding everything that it was not convenient to recognize, and in making without any question or doubt its own laws, is constantly being demonstrated. For example: Hannah A. Ramsey was the widow of Zaman Ramsey, a private in a New York regiment. After his death she obtained a pension.

They had read so much criticism of the army and its leaders, so many high expectations of victory had been turned into the ashes of despair, its Generals had been so contemned, and its successes so few that they undervalued the army.

But now what they were seeing opened their eyes to the gigantic work, the marvelue of purpose as the gigantic work, the marvelue of purpose as the gigantic work of the content of the army and its leaders, so many high expectations of victory had been turned into the ashes of despair, its Generals had been so contenned, and its successes so few that they undervalued the army.

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But now what they were seeing opened their eyes to the gigantic work, the marvelue of the content of the army and its leaders, so many high expectations of victory had been turned into the ashes of despair, its generals had been so contenned, and its successes so few that they undervalued the army. After his death she obtained a pension. which was forfeited when she remarried, has ever existed between said plaintiff camp limits and the regular discipline. Pension Bureau said that she had; no must-

WHEAT is gaily capering above the dolcancel all his engagements for the near to break them up and put their numbers lar mark, while the silver dollar sullenly in the sorely depleted ranks. It was more hangs around 43 cents.



worse than the rest.

COPPRISHT, 1908, BY THE PORLISHERS OF THE NATIONAL TRIBUNE Sadness of a Recent Battlefield-Scene of the | They were too tired, hungry and sleep when they halted upon the clearest and least-rough ground they could readily find,

Most Sanguinary Struggle in the History of the World-The Nine Months of Inces-sant Fighting Around Petersburg. A month-old battlefield is the saddest

and most repugnant of war pictures. The swarm of madly-struggling combatants are gone-apparently as far away as

"The thunder of Captains and the shouting" is as silent as if it never had

Gone even farther are the fight's mortal fears and hopes. Its death-defying heroism:

Its sullen despair;

Its martyr-like resignation; Its fiendish ferocity. All these are like a watch in the night;

as a tale that is told. They can be remembered-faintly recalled-but not felt, or lived again.

Even the men who fought there, and tasted the intoxication of victory, or the death of despair, come back to the ground and look at it with dumb amazement as to what they did and felt there.

All the passion, the thrill, the exaltation, the glory of the battlefield have evaporated, vanished, leaving behind only the sickening lees—the trampled, torn, blood-soaked ground, broken weapons, noisome rags, with fading crimson stains, and the awful stench from the shallow graves. The boys had come into camp at night

upon the ground where the Army of Northern Virginia had made its last desperate stand to save Petersburg, to save the rebel Capital, and the Southern Confederacy from the overwhelming tide of the Army of the Potomac. Really the Southern Confederacy had died right there in that awful battle and the wonderful rush to Appomattox, with the severe fighting on the road were merely culminating and concluding details.

During the afternoon the boys had marched along the Boydton Plank Road through the endless miles of works thrown exclude all except those regularly enrolled up in the months of struggles to extend the Army of the Potomac's left flank beyond the rebel right flank, and cut off Petersburg and Bichmond from the south. The boys thought they had seen wonders in the way of extent and variety of fortification around Atlanta. It was dwarfed in comparison with this. Where-ever they looked, and as far as they could see, the earth was seamed with great red welts, frequently rising to the hight of small hills. With these were ditches, aba-tis, chevaux-de-frise, stockades, casemates, bomb-proofs and the whole arsenal of military devices for offense, defense, entanglement and Protection, limitiess in extent, worlds in samber.

These elaborate works had not been put sult of desperate and urgent need, that birth, education, or money, but he was industrious, entirely honest, true to his principles, and mastered every business in shelter to protectitheir lives.

And every one of the works had been used, too. It was evident even to a civil ian that more than once there had been bitter fighting every every rod of those in terminable miles of earth-scarring works. At that period of the war each of the armies felt most strongly that it had done the hardest and most important part of the work of putting down the rebellion. It knew that it had fought, marched and en-dured as no army had ever been called upon to do before, and it was but natural to think that it had taken the brunt of the gigantic task, with the other armies doing fairly well in their way, and according to their lights, but not measuring up at al to its character and achievements. The contest was so gigantic that no man's mind could take in the whole of it, nor any one comprehend that somewhere else others were having just as bitter times as he and his comrades.

The men who made the mighty rush from the Rapidan to Gettysburg to head off Lee had little time to think of the strains another army had been enduring for months to capture Vicksburg, and, conversely, the men of the Army of the Tennessee had quite enough to engross their minds, without appreciative study as to what the Army of the Potomac had been

Next, and most naturally, every man thought his company was the best in the regiment, his regiment the best in the brigade, his brigade the best in the corps, an his corps the test in the army. It is to the lasting credit of our manhood and our American civilization that this is so. Such is the high average of our manhood that every man thinks that the mer immediately around him, of whose daily lives, efforts, character and achievements he is an eye-witness, must be very much better men than those whom he knows less

Therefore, not a man in the 200th Ind. was troubled with the slightest doubt that the Army of the Cumberland was the greatest fighting machine that the world had ever seen, and that it had really delivered the blows which had knocked the life of the rebellion. Of course, the Army the Tennessee was first in goodness of the Teamence was next in goodness and services to the Army of the Combes land. If it had only had Pap Thomas to a commander it would have been almost, i not quite as good. The Army of the Termessee cordially reciprocated this opin-ion, believing that all the Army of the Cumberland lacked to make it as peerless an organization as its comrades from the sippi was training in its youth by cerless commanders as U. S. Grant

and Tecumsel Sh Of course, both held the Army of the Potomac far below either of themselves, They had read so much criticism of the

of purpose of the grand old Army of the Potomac. Here was a battlefield as big at rarely silent for un hour. Every that torn and scarred ground had cost at least one man's life. Every spadeful of earth represented a skirmish. Counting both sides, an asmy as big as Grant's at Shiloh or Rosecrans's at Stone River slept in the shallow graves which patched and blotched the profind in all directions.

"Great Heavens," exclaimed Monty Scruggs, "this M Atlanta several times

"It's Vicksburg multiplied by three or

here somewhere, and the assault on Jones-boro, that your Army of the Cumherland talk so much about, was only a patching to the way the Army of the Potomac broke over those works on the 2d of April."

"It certainly looks as if there was old he-fighting all around here, and lots of it," they candidly admitted.

comrades, who are lying out there, or resting much farther away. It's astenishing that any of us ever got away alive
from over there (and he indicated with a
wave of the handful of slivers the frowning ramparts of Fort Gregg). "Abel,
that's my chum, left both legs there, and
even he considers that he played in great
last. But come inside gentlemen. If luck. But come inside, gentlemen. It doesn't seem to smell nearly so rank inside as out here. I am very glad to welcome you to my home, humble and dis-

ordered as it may be."

They went inside and found the man's chum, sitting by the fireplace, waiting for his partner to bring in wood with which to start the fire and cook the meager little portion of meal and meat upon which the two would make their breakfast. been the former parade of a rebel regi-ment, and that somebody said they were about 15 miles from Richmond. The air The room was absolutely bare of furni-ture, or any of the usual belongings of a was full of sickening odors-very different from the clean, breezy camp near Raleigh —but, then, so was the whole country through which they had been marching since morning, and this was not much home. These had probably been swept away early in the occupation of the ground by the soldiers, who had also torn away, from time to time, parts of the house to fix up their tents. It had only been saved They gathered up some bits of boards and built a fire to boil their coffee against from complete demolition by being used

the trunk of a locust tree which had been as a tent by an officer. cut down by a shell. The tree had ap-Abel Gadsport, the man's partner, had parently stood near the Colonel's tent, and like him, a refined, gentlemanly face, and



"THERE WAS SOMETHING SO WOR-BEGONE ABOUT THIS RESEL AND HIS PLACE"

been spared by the freezing rebels on that spoke with the accents of an educated When the morning came the boys looked around upon a scene of desolation the like was cheerful and courteous. He took the of which their eyes had never before enountered in their years of campaigning,

stood the powerful Fort Gregg, as sullen, somber, forbidding heap of clay as ever disfigured the earth's surface. Around it were deep, wide dirches, filled with filthy, stagnant water, now taking on a green scum under the Spring sun, and every art weeks before Fort Gregg had been scene of the most desperate struggle of the war, and the rains had not yet obliterated the footprints of the fierce combatants who met one another on the slopes with sword and bayonet. Nor had the fresh grass, springing up everywhere, begun to pitifully hide the soil enriched by the life-blood of hundreds of the bravest men. At a little distance beyond another line

of works was the city of Petersburg, its spires shattered by shell, and toppling, blackened walls standing where buildings had been, great gaps in houses where shells had entered and exploded, streets torn up, encumbered, blockaded. 'I certainly think I should quiet life in the country to a residence in that place, with all its metropolitan advantages," said Monty Scruggs, with a shrug of his shoulders and a nauseated twitch of his face, at the rank odor from a

housand graves, and still more thousands of unburied carcasses of horses and mules. "This place needs about a million tons of chloride of lime, to make it fit for anyright away," said the medical-minded Alf bathe and dress their wounds. Russell. "I'm surprised at the General's halting us here, or even allowing us to fried, which the two men devoured with march through. The surroundings are thankfulness and hungry appetites. highly unsanitary. Everywhere were broken guns, rusty

fragments of shells, rags of garments, most of them blood-stained, stalled and brokendown wagons, sometimes with the carcasses of the emaciated teams still hitched to them, just as they were left in the wild flight which followed the break-ing of the rebel lines. Everywhere were board stuck upright at the end, showing where some poor fellow, who had received his last wound, had been hurriedly put out of sight by his retreating comrades. Outside of the regiment, and the rest of the brigade, which lay still farther

oack, there was not a soul in sight, as the boys answered the morning roll-call, and gathered around the fire, in hopes that the fraggant coffee might help drive the hor-rible stench out of their nostrils. The door of a frame house at a little di

tance opened, and there came out a talk, slender figure, in rebel clothes, with but one arm, and proceeded, with feeble, halting steps, to gather up such slivers and chips as he could find. The house had suffered severely by the bombardment. Shells had passed through the roof, tearing great gaps in it, the glass was gone from the windows, and all the surrou were in the last extremity of dilapidation There was something so wobegone about the rebel and his place that the boys hearts were touched, and they walked over toward him "Good morning, gentlemen." he greeted

them, in a pleasant, courteous voice, stopping with his left hand full of splinters and slivers, which he had been pulling off lived through it." with difficulty from a shell-shattered piece of weatherboarding. "Fine morning."

"Very fine morning, if the air could be run through a gravel screen, and a few tons of dead horse sifted out," returned Monty.

until you get used to it," man, in the tone of an educated, cultivate gentleman. He tottered and only save imself from falling by catching at the wall of the house.

"Your getting used to it is killing you apidly," said Alf Russell, with a pro-essional air, as they ran to his side to help him. "Why don't you get away from "Do you see any more salubrious place in the neighborhood?" asked the man, with a comprehensive glance, over the

woful landscape. "Beside, this is my property, and I must stay upon it and

and mather are dead, and my only brother was killed at Cold Harbor: I am the sole "Your property bas certainly suffered

man. He had lost both legs below the knee, and was very pale and weak, but him, and began scratching around in th

Fort Gregg, after having their limbs amputated, had been carried to the house probably at the solicitation of the owner. who had introduced himself as Mahlon Spear, and left there, with a supply of of the engineer had been exhausted to the army after Lee, where there would be make the fort impregnable. Only six other work to do. Their bed was some weeks before Fort Gregg had been the blankets picked up on the battlefield. They had been forgotten in the rush of over whelming events, and the only visitors to their house were negroes prowling over field against the service pension bill, and the battlefield, whom they persuaded to is giving its readers a good deal of misinminister to their most pressing wants. The food left with them had, of course

long ago given out, but they had managed to subsist on a little meal and bacon, which a kind-hearted old negress, who had known the Spear family before the war, had managed to collect for them from the

The boys did not need even a suggestion as to what to do. Sandy Baker and Harry Joslyn ran toward the works, and pre-sently returned with some empty ammuni-tion boxes, which they broke apart and started a lively fire on the hearth. Monty Scruggs, Gid Mackall and Alf Russell hurried to camp, and soon came to the house, carrying their haversacks and those of the rest of the boys, which they emptied of into the camps of instruction during the their contents, and Sandy Baker started to Spanish War had, as a rule, no opportuof chloride of lime, to make it fit for any cook a breakfast for the poor men, while thing but buzzards to live, and needs it Alf Russell set some water to warm to Coffee was soon boiling and the mea

"You say you were in the fight over there at that fort," said Monty Scruggs, after the men had become invigorated by a few swallows of coffee.
"Yes, indeed," answered Mahlon Spear

"We were in it from start to finish, and it was the hottest I ever saw, and we have been in the Army of Northern ever since we were conscripted, in March, short trenches with a significant bit of 1862, and saw all the fighting from the Peninsular Campaign on through Antietam, Chancellorsville, Gettysburg and the Wilderness. "Where did you belong?

"We belonged to the Mississippi Sharp shooters-Lieut-Col. Duncan's Battalio We were both born in Virginia, right here in this neighborhood, but had gone to Mississippi to teach school. We were both Union men, and kept out of the army as long as we could, but the war broke up our schools, and then we were conscripte We might both have had commiss suppose, if we had taken any heart in the war, but we could not, and so we stayed in the ranks. Our battalion, with Mc-Elroy's Battery, was sent to Fort Gregg, with orders to hold it as long as there was one of us alive, to give Gen. Lee time to get his army together, after the outer lines were broken, and to get Longstree from across the river. We obeyed orders. There were only 30 or 40 of us alive when the fort was taken, and your men said that each one of us must have killed three or four of them before they got over the entanglements and ditch and up the slippery sides of the fort. O, it was just aw-ful. It was a great wonder that anybody sides of the fort. O, it was just aw

"Tell us all about it, please," said Monty Scruggs, and the rest gathered about to listen. There came a terrific explosion, followed by two or three smaller ones. Pete Skidmore came running up the bank, scared half to death, but grinning.
"They were alive and loaded," he yelled,

"What in the world does this mean Pete?" inquired Monty Scruggs, with all the dignity and severity of a Lance Ser-

"Why," gasped Pete, "some of them

fool recruits were rolling around them big shells, and I told them to be careful, they might go off—the shells I mean. They're an awful smart lot of cubs, them recruits, and think they know more about war alwoful landscape.

property, and I must stay upon
keep it up."

There was something so comical in this
that the boys would have burst into a
laugh, had they not been restrained by the
man's carnestness and gentle dignity.
"Your property?" echoed Monty
"Your property?" echoed Monty
"Does this house belong to
don't know enough yet to obey his superior officers, and let me do the thinkin
for him. At least we miled nome of the de, this is my considerable deterioration." remarket hunder the cores and antique hunder the cores and antique at me that the shells demand alife. Monty, judicially, as he answered the at me that the shells were an eafe or rocks damaged edifice.

"It's all I have in the world," replied dornicks. He had a piece of his cap cut He would have to come from heaven.

and one arm is all that the war has left me. But," he added more cheerfully, "I'm lots better off, after all, than most of my comrades, who are lying out there, or restsaid Monty Scruggs severely. "If Maj. Bowersox finds out what you've been up to he's liable to tie you to the tall of a wagon for a few days' march. Skip out

now, and lay low." (To be continued.)

A BENIGHTED OREGONIAN.

The Evening Telegram, of Portland, Ore., has started in with a virulent crusade against the service pension bill with even less information than its class generally have. In the course of a long editorial headed "A Despicable Graft," it says: "The crisis which the country faced in

the days of the civil war was one that involved the very life of the Nation. The country's salvation depended upon the loyalty and capacity for self-sacrifice which existed among its citizens. It was a time when the Government had a right to demand that sacrifice, plus the moss strenuous service that could be rendered and by hundreds of thousands of men who entered the Union army that service was given with the atmost enthusiasm. With these men a premium on patriotism was hardly necessary. If it was necessary to any class, that class was what was known as 90-day men. If their service was near the close of the war, they take anything but credit from the fact of not having enlisted when they were needed for the sterner work of the conflict. It is not a violent presumption that a considerable percentage of these 'one-night stand' sol-diers stayed out of the trouble as long as they conveniently could, or were induced to enlist mainly from pecuniary considerations, in which possibly the matter of a bounty was involved. In the latter event, they were better paid than the men who bore the brunt of the strife.

In regard to the first assertion, it is sufficient to say that while the crisis was all that the Telegram says it was, only a portion of the young men responded to the country's call, and consequently they who did deserve a great deal more consideration than those who did not enlist. They made an immense sacrifice in order to save the country from ruin, and the people of today who are enjoying the fruits of that sacrifice, certainly owe it to those men to give them a decent provision for their old

The writer's assumption that the 90-day men only came in at the close of the war is funny in its dense ignorance. Everybody else knows that the 90-day men were the first troops in the field, and that they did a great deal of hard fighting in Virginia, West Virginia, and Missouri. The limitation of 90 days does not, however, refer primarily to them; It is a limitation following the precedent of similar legislation for previous wars, and refers only to the length of service in the class of ealistments. A pension was given to the men who served so much as 14 days in the War of 1812, and the limitation for the Mexican War pensioners was 60 days, so in their 2,000 miles of marching from the Ohio River to the James. They were just inside the next to the last and strongest line of works which guarded Petersburg. To their right, at the angle of the works, and on a commanding hight of ground, way-he is simply angry that money should be paid to the men who fought for the Union, and he is hunting around for pretexts for opposing it. Any old thing tood, while the Surgeons hurried on with he can say suits him just as well as any other old thing. The truth of either does not matter.

> THE Buffalo Express has entered the formation in regard to it. It says:

"If it were proposed to give the boys who went to Camp Thomas or Camp Atger for three months during the Spanish War \$12 a month for the remainder of their lives, we imagine that even those who look scanty supplies of her neighbors, all of on the padded rolls tolerantly would herewhom were on the verge of famine.

The best did not be received to the padded rolls tolerantly would heretate. Yet there is no moral difference between the claim of the Spanish-War and the civil-war soldier. It is astonishing that any paper, not

merely of the standing of the Buffalo Ex-

press, but one of any standing whatever, should show such startling ignorance of the real conditions. The men who went nity to render active service to the Government. To only a few of them was given this opportunity. On the other hand, the men who enlisted during the rebellion were in active service from the very moment that they enlisted, thousands of them even before they enlisted. The 90-days men cleared the State of West Virginia of the rebels, and secured the erection of that country into a separate State. They fought the battle of Bull Run; they fought the savage little battle of Wilson's Creek, securing Missouri to the Union, and afterwards and in many places they rendered a great deal of service. Every man who entered the United States service during the rebellion had a great deal to do. If he was only in for three months he put in his time for three months: if it was for a year, he did four times as much; and so on. The service pension bill is directly in line with the previous pension legislation of the United States, and it makes the term required longer than was the case with the survivors of previous wars. Taking so short a period as 90 days, it can be said that

PROSPECTS OF THE SERVICE PENSION BILL.

the average three-months man during the war of the rebellion rendered more and

harder service than the average man who

went through the whole of any other war

in which the Government has been en-

The week ends with seemingly bright prospects for the passage of the Service Pension Bill. Speaker Cannon is quoted as saying that the bill would pass itself, and the President has been quite free in speaking of his desire to have the bill passed. The friends of the veterans, who have the success of the measure at heart, are figuring that it will not cost more than \$20,000,000 the first year, and one of their arguments is that the Pension Bureau cannot issue more than that many certificates; also that the death rate among the soldiers will rapidly reduce the total amount of pension expenditures. The attitude of the Senate is not thought to be so favorable. ready than Gen. Sherman, That Gil and that body may even decline to pass Braisted, the fellow I had a fight with, is the House bill, but may, as it has done in warm, earnest friends in the Se will have no stone unturned to

dent this year cannot be elected without the State of New York The De could get the State of New York from the affecting clutches of Hill; Murchy and Hearst could hardly be been on this earth.